

Board Meeting Minutes

Approved_{03/27/07}

Tuesday, January 23rd, 2007
Family Resource Network
Stockton, CA

Board Members Present:

Jill Ames
Robert Balderama
Gary Del Nero
Mary Dye
Hanna Kassis
John Lundberg
Brad Putz
Mollie Rogers

Staff Present:

Kathy Barnes- Executive Director
Dena Hernandez-Community Program Specialist II

Facilitators:

David Simerley
Paula Short-Lund

Board Members Absent:

Fred Edmondson
Janine Lodato
Anna Newman
Traci Trujillo
Deirdre Wright

Guests:

Ann Cirimele- Family Resource Network
Pam Thompson- Early Start VMRC

Call to Order and Introductions:

The meeting was called to order by Gary Del Nero, Chairperson, at 6:05 p.m. The Board members, staff and audience introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes:

Motion made to approve the agenda Dye/ Putz

Motion to approve minutes from last meeting Putz/Lundberg

Public Comment:

There was no public comment at this meeting.

Presentations:

Family Resource Network- Ann Cirimele gave an overview of Family Resource Network (FRN) and Early Start. She had several handouts with information for all. FRN does not have a large funding base. She explained the logo of FRN which is a heart broken but fits back together again. FRN puts out a newsletter three times a year. They do many trainings and work closely with VMRC and AB6. They offer free nighttime trainings Sept thru May. They offer a larger training to teach parents how to be advocates for their children. FRN has a very small work force- One full time and 2 part time people. Early Intervention or Early start- to assist children reach their potential. Nothing to do with Head Start. Linked to IDEA part C. Ends at 3 years of age.

Pam Thompson from Early Start at VMRC spoke about timelines and how VMRC is trying to work on adhering to them. Amounts of referrals for Early Start have increased. VMRC is short staffed to accommodate this increase but they are working on it. The Diagnosis of autism has increased to 1 out of 166 kids. Ann gave an overview with a power point presentation. Presentation was awesome.

Officer Elections

Nominations:

CHAIR: Putz nominated Del Nero for chairperson, Kassis seconded. Closed nominations. Vote taken- Gary Del Nero will be chairperson.

VICE CHAIR: Del Nero nominated Lundberg, Putz seconded. Closed nominations. Vote taken- John Lundberg will be vice chairperson.

Reports:

- State Council Update- Brad Putz attended last SCDD meeting. They are working on a workshop for SB1270- SCDD is spear heading this. SCDD has to give a report to the Governor by May 1st 2007. Area Board Director's may be getting a raise. There will be a National Conference in October 2007 in San Diego.
- SB1270- guide to explain the workgroups included in the board packet. Kathy encouraged all to look over it. It explains the process. Area Board VI will have focus groups on how the system works or doesn't for the adults. It will be a collaborative venture with VMRC. No dates for focus groups as of yet in all counties.
- Mini-grants- We need to have a sub committee on mini grants. Robert, Gary & Deirdre they will set a meeting.
- VMRC Consumer Services Committee-Robert hasn't attended a meeting yet. He needs a facilitator to attend the meeting. Kathy will meet with Robert.
- VMRC Resource Development Committee-need someone to cover this committee- meet 6x a year- meet again in March. Robert volunteered- Gary can volunteer after March. Robert needs the dates. VMRC will be giving a grant- Ab6 will work collaboratively with VMRC. Grant is for employment or things that support employment in the community.
- CAC's- No report- Neither Deidre or Traci were in attendance at this meeting.
- Calaveras County Transportation- John- at July meeting in San Andreas. Public Transportation system in Calaveras County. Mountain counties also have issue

with transportation. They have had two meetings. One with those who use the system. They identified what the issues were. This affects all who use the service. Basic issues: no weekend service, changing schedules without notice, routes being eliminated, not using the Arc Bus stop, and issues related to getting to Columbia College at appropriate times. At the 2nd meeting, the discussion between the Rep of Calaveras County Council of Governments, Dept of Public Works who over sees plus the bus driver of the service. It was a good meeting. Their awareness was heighten. Looking at new bus service this coming year. John is hopeful that to some degree some the sloppiness at the edges will be cleaned up and that they will honor the Para- transit. From a process standpoint our needs will be meet. We heard a lot of willingness to try to meet the needs that we have. Each of the Meetings was chaired by Kathy Barnes. She did a great job facilitating. We have a great way to go. Having John's participation has been significant to bring the spotlight on the issues. It has made a big difference. Well see if it works.

Board Member Reports

Jill Ames- She went to a transit meeting. She will go again in Tuolumne County. The room was full for the meeting. They let people know about the problems and this meeting will address the issues. Tuolumne People First passed groceries and helped 1100 families over the holidays. We had a meeting at Community Compass to reach out to other mountain counties. We went to a transition class and will try to go at least once a month. We had a rights workshop. Having another party at The Arc no date yet.

Brad Putz- SAC VI's Annual Celebration of Self Advoactes will be Friday, February 2nd, 2007 at Quail Lake Baptist Church in Stockton. There will be food, music and dancing.

Robert Balderama- He hasn't attended the VMRC board meetings in a while.

Molly Rogers- No report.

Gary Del Nero- Last year they didn't have a basketball for Special Olympics – We have talked 60 people to come out and go to a big tournament in Sacramento. Next Tuesday- I'll teach a class on People with Disabilities. I'll do it three or four times a year. That's pretty cool. My daughter is getting married the day before tax day. In the 2nd weekend in March, he and his wife will celebrate their 25th anniversary. Thanks to the facilitators for bringing the folks down.

Hanna Kassis- Nothing to report- he apologized for not attending last couple of board meetings.

John Lundberg- He told us about Camping Unlimited in Santa Cruz County. It offers 6 sessions of summer camp and a year round travel activities for people with disabilities. We just got a new director. We are continuing our capital campaign- the facilities are very old, we want to raise \$500,000 have about \$160, 000 to rebuild the infrastructure.

Mary Dye- She talked about a fundraiser for the Arc. She talked about transportation issues in her county.

Staff Report:

Kathy- highlighted items in the packet

Items noted:

- A Guide on SB 1270
- Attention to green sheet SSI/ SSDI Training with Michael Walling- Jan 31st- interested- Let Kathy know. There will be a free question and answer session after 6:30 to 8pm for people who receive services and family members.
- Partners in Policy Making- application form- for Northern Call only Area Boards 1-5
- Eligibility on Medical
- Advocates guide to the Justice System.
- Request for Nominations fro Sandra Jensen Award.
- Pillow Angel Ethics article
- Closing Sheltered workshops in Vermont.
- Health System in CA- best on laying out what the different ideas are very clearly. The budget- it is a moving target- a May revise- in theory voted in by June 30... the main things that advocates have pulled out of the budget- transportation; Kathy will keep sending budget input as it comes in.

LQA 2nd Quarter Report- pink sheet. We had an excellent completion rate. George Lewis, an incredible guy, we brought him on a temporary appointment. Unfortunately, we were not able to keep him on in a permanent position. The good news is George is continuing as a LQA visitor.

Our next meeting will be the 4th Tuesday in March is next meeting!!

Adjourn: .

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dena M. Hernandez